Application No.: 08/957,833

Filed: October 27, 1997 Group Art Unit: 2772

## **REMARKS**

In this preliminary amendment, claims 1, 3, 15, 17, 31, 33 and 49 have been amended, and claims 2, 16, and 32 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 3-15, 17-31, and 33-53 are pending.

Per a communication from the PTO mailed December 28, 1998, a Petition to Make Special has been granted in this application. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter which would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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